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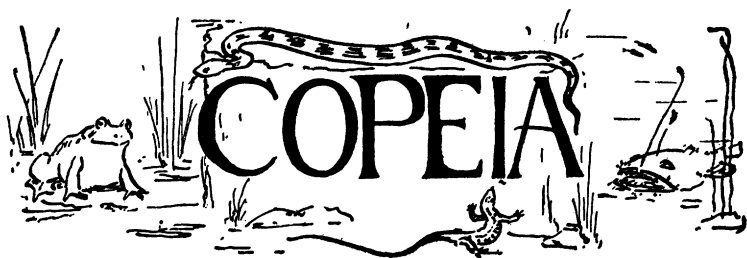
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*Published to advance the Science of cold-blooded vertebrates*

## NOTE ON THE BASKING SHARK.

A good-sized male example of the Basking Shark (*Centorhinus maximus*), was caught September 27, 1918, in a floating gill-net, 8-inch mesh (stretch), No. 21 twine, set in seven fathoms about a mile off point Reyes, Calif. The shark became entangled in the net and, rolling up in it, became helpless and finally drowned through pressure of gill-covers upon the gills. It gave the following measurements, in inches: Length 280 ( $23\frac{1}{3}$  feet); lower jaw 29; upper jaw 30; upper lobe of caudal, outer edge (pit to tip), 59, inner 44; lower lobe, outer edge 31, inner 19; caudal peduncle from base of tail to anal fin 24; width of tail 60; of pectoral fin outside 45; dorsal fin, front 33, back 26; ventral fin, front 22, back 21; eye 2 by 1.75. Total weight 2,450 pounds; weight of tail to narrowest place of caudal peduncle 135 pounds. The liver alone weighed 385 pounds. Gill-slits 5, very long and almost meeting below; teeth very small, scarcely perceptible. The skin was very rough, the odor very strong. Under the skin along the middle of the back was a long strip of red meat about an inch thick.

The shark was captured by Girolama Pasquali who brought it in to Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco, whence it was taken to M. M. Scheafer's fertilizer works near San Rafael, where I examined and

measured it. The weights were given me by Mr. Shaefer.

The oil extracted from the liver brought 85 cents a gallon. The amount obtained was not determined as the liver was treated with other material. The rest of the carcass, after all the oil had been extracted, was converted into poultry feed which brought \$70 per ton.

This species of shark is known to the fishermen as the Capidoli, or oil fish.

A few days later (October 4) another specimen of the Basking Shark was brought in to San Francisco by Agostino Bregante. This example was taken off Bolinas Bay near San Francisco, and was 13 feet, 10 inches long. It also went into chicken feed at Schaefer's factory.

While these are not the first examples of the Basking Shark taken on the California coast, the species is of such rare occurrence anywhere that these captures are worthy of record.

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## CONCERNING THE GENERIC NAME, *CRISTIVOMER* vs. *SALVELINUS*, FOR THE GREAT LAKES TROUT OR NAMAYCUSH.

The generic name for the lake trout has undergone several changes since Walbaum in 1794 designated the species as *Salmo namaycush*. After the generic name *Salvelinus* for the char had been generally recognized, the lake trout being regarded as a char, was for some time, by American authorities at least, called *Salvelinus namaycush*.

In 1878 Gill and Jordan (a) bestowed upon it the generic name, *Cristivomer*. The character which

(a) Manual of Vertebrates of the Eastern United States, ed. 2, p. 356.